

the City College, Calcutta, that I happened to set a taste of Politics for the first time *in my *Ilk*. I remember quite clearly the day when I went to hear a lecture delivered by Sj. Bepin-chandra Pal at the Star Theatre Hall, and how he dwelt upon the subject of our National mendicancy and impressed the audience with his vivid imagination and logical reasonings, Hitherto our Congresses and Conferences, had spent over twenty to twenty-five years of our valuable time in fruitless attempts at gaining concessions from the Government by sending petitions and humiliating appeals. It was he who exhorted us to discard the idea as futile and lake to self-help and self-assertion. **We seem to **want**"* he said, **to gain our ends by disturbing John Bull in his sweet forgetfulness of slumber, nurtured and embelished by the folds **of** his cosy blankets, raising our moaning cries of woe and misery. But it was a thing that was never **to** be/' Though perhaps this was the **very** first time that I went to hear a lecture, yet the Idea caught my fancy and I do not

seem to
forget the incident even after the
lapse of so
many years. Previous to this I was
never in
the habit of attending lectures either
Social or